



Buccaneer Region Board of Directors Meeting August 23, 2021—Zoom Meeting

Present with Zoom: Don Johnson, Bill Dennis, Chris Ronson, Harvey Lewis, Larry Morgan, Bob Horansky, Kenny Lee, Karen Kern, Mark Eversoll (late), Jack Abbott, Nona Heinzen and Bob DeLoatch

Absent: Ron Ogletree, Tom Neubeck and Michele Eversoll

Call to order: 7:00 pm, Don Johnson

Larry asked if we had a quorum even though we had members missing. Don confirmed that we did have a quorum.

JAX SOLO- Tom wasn't able to be on the meeting but Don presented in his stead with the information he had. Don said Jax Solo's 2 events were at Amelia Island. The June event was limited to 80 cars and they had 79 participants and the August event was a night event and was limited to 60 cars and they had 57 cars. He then gave the balances in the Checking and savings accounts. The planning for the Florida Autocross Championships in November at the FIRM has begun.

SAV SOLO- Kenny said that since the last meeting they had successfully held their July and August events. Their July event had 65 participants and the August event had 63. He gave the income from the 2 events as \$1018 for the July event and \$1001 for the August event. He hasn't figured the expenses yet. He gave the checking account balances.

Chris asked if the Solo accounts could donate to the Paving fund. Don replied that we would welcome any donations for the paving fund.

Don asked if Kenny had heard any more on when the construction company might take over part of the site. Kenny replied that he had not but that he was enjoying having use of the entire site.

Don asked if there were any other questions and there were none. Don thanked Kenny for all of his efforts.

TRACK MANAGER REPORT- Jack said that they had been busy with re-staining the corner stations, fixing broken steps, painting pit lane wall, repairing electrical boxes in the paddock and cutting grass. He said they have had a couple of motorcycle groups and car groups. With the heat and more activities in the same area, some of the signups have been low.

Jack said that Adam with Xtreme Xperience called looking for some days at the track. Adam brings in hi-end cars (Lamborghinis, Ferraris, 448GTB, McLarens, 570S type cars) for people to rent for their "Extreme

Experience". He also provides professional racing instructors as needed. He is working on getting his schedule together and will get back in touch.

Jack then gave the checking account and money market bank balances (including the donations [\$5799] and transfers [\$33,862.52] made). He also provided a Garage rental to date total of \$112,220 since they began renting the garages on August 9, 2018. Jack said he had made some calls about building additional garages and was told that it would be better to wait until closer to the time to get a quote due to the increases of the materials involved. If they gave an estimate now, it wouldn't be accurate a few months from now.

Chris asked what percentage of the garages were rented for the events. Jack replied that some weekends it's 100% and some weekends it's 60%. He said he had opened up more garages in the back for rentals. Chris said his question is if we had more garages, could we rent them. Jack replied yes.

Larry asked when will the garages be paid for? Jack said we had paid them off already.

Don then presented the Profit and Loss and Balance Sheet that the track had provided. Don said that he had spoken again with SEDiv about the \$100,000 loan for the repaving. He said it would be paid back over 5 years with no interest. He said we will have the paving estimate re-bid in December for updated costs. Don asked if there were any questions—there were none. Don then moved on to the Treasurer's Report.

TREASURER'S REPORT- Michele wasn't on the call so Don presented the Region checking account balance and the Investment account balance. Harvey asked what the interest rate on the Brokerage account was and how is it invested? Don said he would get the information for him. Then Harvey said he could see it now.

Don asked if there were any questions? There were none. He said things were much improved since we are back on schedule with our events.

RACE CHAIR REPORT-

2022 Schedule (all of it): Don asked Bill if he wanted to speak about anything specifically about the Summer Haze. Bob Horansky said he wanted to say something about it. Bob wants to make a motion that we never run an August race ever again. Don asked if anyone wanted to second the motion. Larry seconded it. Bob DeLoatch asked if they could have some discussion about it first. Bob D asked if we give this August date up, can we get it back? He doesn't want SEDiv to get any more of our dates. He said SEDiv has \$100,000 of disposable income that they can loan to us interest free.

Bob modified his motion to: "We don't run an event in August for multiple reasons and we do not run a driver school in February. We have been the benefactor to the division for years and it's about time for some other region to step up. We should take the weekend that we normally have the driver school and run a Double SARRC with either a track trial or track event. Then because FL does not support open wheel driver schools, I would propose we take the test day prior to that SARRC event and make it a limited driver school for open wheel cars only."

Don said that was a fairly comprehensive motion. He asked if we could discuss 2022 dates and then come back to a vote after that. Bill also asked that we wait to make motions until after we have discussions.

Don said that on the SEDiv schedule we have two relatively speaking safe dates—The Feb 8 and the April date. The August date is not a good time of year for us. He sees, when looking at the schedule, there are 5 SCCA

races at RRR. They are: Feb, April, SEDiv has June, August (Summer Haze), SIC in September or October. The trick is where do you put a Buccaneer event at RRR? If you put it after the SIC, it becomes a “next year” event.

Don said we have been doing the school a long time. We have committed to it and stayed committed to it even when it wasn't making any money. He doesn't believe we should commit to be out of pocket for it when it benefits the Division and other regions. He thinks with some better planning that we could have a more successful school if we did a three-day event with Friday/Saturday School and a one-day SARRC event on Sunday; or we could convert it to a Double SARRC event.

Don said he doesn't believe any changes need to be made for the Jim Stark event but beyond that, the only real openings on the SEDiv schedule would be after the SIC in September/October. Chris suggested we do it in November or December. Jack said he believes we can work something out for November 12-13, 2022. Harvey asked about traditional dates. He asked if a Majors event can be a combination Major/SARRC event? Don said that yes, we could definitely request that we take over that June event from SEDiv and make it Buccaneer Region Major/SARRC event. Harvey asked how that sounds? Don said it would definitely benefit us. Don said that he believes that when the Nationals went away, the Board gave the event back to SEDiv. Bill said he thinks he can clear up the reason that RRR has never had a Majors. He said that when the Majors program was originally created, it was for spectator tracks and RRR is a non-spectator track. Harvey pointed out that we 'own the playground.'

Don said we have several options. Karen said that from a marketing aspect, she has had inquiries about the driver school. She said she feels that we might be missing out on opportunities and that if we market it, we might do better. She said there is a demand for the driver school from the requests and questions she receives. Don agreed that marketing might help us some.

Bill said he knows that some of the Board members are interested in maintaining the driver school as a Buccaneer school. The idea of a one-day school and a one-day SARRC that we ran this past February could be very productive for us. He said we could push the classroom component, track walk, etc. back to Friday, we can have cars on track on Saturday and follow with a one-day SARRC Sunday, we might have a winning combination that we can try for 2022. Jack can still have half of Friday. Larry said that we shared the profit/loss with SEDiv so the question is do we want to continue that or go out on our own. Chris said he felt we should do it on our own. Don agreed. Don feels that the event would be a successful event. Bill said he agreed. Bill asked if Don wants to be the Race Chair for the driver school and the one-day SARRC. Don replied that he would do that.

Don said that now that we have had some discussion about the 2022 schedule, is it time to make any motions? Chris said that he thinks we answer the motion that we take over the June Majors and that we run the February driver school and SARRC. Bill asked that those be separate motions. Bob said we need to vote on the motion to make the February 25-27, 2022 date a double SARRC and Track Trial event with an alternate OPEN wheel driver school on Friday. There was discussion on how all of the events would work within the weekend.

The concept is: We turn the February date into a DBL SARRC and Open Wheel Driver School. The students can run with the test day participants in the Open Wheel group if they are signed off on so that they receive track time. There was also discussion as far as the staffing needed for the February weekend with the Driver School on Friday—do we need full staffing? If full staffing is needed, costs increase. Bob confirmed that we do not need full staffing as per the GCR. Bob said that on a Track test day, Jack's staff is adequate for the alternate driver school. Don said Mike Havlick has been doing the schools at Kershaw with fewer resources. Mike Havlick is our area 12 for driver school and is knowledgeable. Don said he has reached out to Mike about all of

it but hasn't heard back yet. Harvey thinks that last year's event was great. He is worried that Friday might be an issue due to people having to take Friday off in order to attend. There was more discussion about possibly having an Open wheel driver school in February and a Closed wheel school in April. Bill, Chris and Bob said they like the idea.

Bill pointed out that if we do a SARRC in February that we'd be early in the season and that could be a draw. Don confirmed that we would have to get the blessing from Mike Havlick if we do **both** closed and open wheel school on the same weekend. Chris suggested we do the closed wheel in February and the open wheel in April. Bill said he agreed. Bob said either one works. Bill suggested that Don and Bob Horansky set up a conference call with Mike Havlick. They agreed.

Bob DeLoatch—if we put students out during a test day, are we negatively impacting the licensed test day participants? Logistically speaking, how will it work? Are the black flags and red flags required? Bob Horansky said the drivers would be willing to help the students out. Bill said that Bob DeLoatch has legitimate concerns about overwhelming the students. Bill suggested that we let Mike Havlick take the lead on making those judgements on these issues.

Larry said we have a motion that has not yet been seconded. Chris said Bob had withdrawn his motion. Harvey made a motion to save the date and allow us the time to see what is actually feasible and then report back to the board. Larry said he could agree with that. Chris seconded Harvey's motion. Don asked for Mark Eversoll to comment on his thoughts about it. Mark said that he has always thought of the driver school as being a service and that he will always work the driver school. Mark said he can support the changes that have been discussed.

Don asked for a second on the motion. Bill seconded the motion. The motion to be voted upon was: for the February 25-27, 2022 date, we hold a driver school, Double SARRC and Track Trial event with details to be determined later. Then a vote was taken with the motion carrying by a majority vote as we had a quorum. The negative vote was given by Larry Morgan.

Don then asked for a motion regarding the April dates. The motion is that for the April Jim Stark event, that we have a driver school on Friday with the details to be determined later. Bill made the motion and Bob Horansky seconded the motion. Don asked if there was any discussion on the matter. Larry wanted more details. Chris said we will determine the details at a later date. Mark asked if Karen could give us some insight as to how marketing would work for an April school. Karen said that she remembers the school as always being in February. She isn't sure how it will all work. Don responded from his stand point. He said that when he first began in the SCCA here (2004), the school was a big event but, shortly after, the SCCA did away with the National program. We are getting squeezed out of the calendar by SEdiv. There are conflicting factors but we are still committed to offering a driver school to keep our region going. Chris said the reason that we are running the school on a test day is that it keeps the expenses at a minimum. Chris feels that the school on the test day is beneficial to the drivers too. Karen said she feels that we need to keep the school in February. She said we should research what is going on in April to see the feasibility of the April school. Bill said the for 2022 the Central FL region has a hybrid event planned for May 21-22. It will be a driver school, track event, vintage race and an enduro. He said from the competition angle, we will have both of our events before theirs. Mark said it's not like we are committing for the rest of our lives. Larry asked Jack if he could give some data on how many turns, he mans on a test day. Jack said on his test day he mans all turns except turn 7 with 1 person. There are 2 ambulances, 1 Fire, a control person and pit out.

Don asked for a vote on the April event. Nona took votes for the April event being an alternate school on Friday for the Jim Stark. All votes were positive. The motion carried.

Don then asked for a motion to take the August date off the calendar for SCCA. Bill made the motion. Chris seconded the motion. Don asked for discussion. Larry asked for the motion to be restated. Take the summer haze that is currently on the calendar for 2022 off of the SEDiv calendar. Larry said he could go with that. Nona took votes to take the August 2022 date, as it exists, off of the calendar. All votes were affirmative. Motion carries.

Don thanked everyone and recapped: for 2022 we have a February Double SARRC with an alternate school and an April Double SARRC with an alternate school. Don said that he was going to reach out to the people who ran the June event this year, Mike Finn, Jim Creighton and Bob Hudson and discuss us taking back the event going forward.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

Volunteer Recruitment—Bill has been doing newsletters out to the region. Don has been reaching out to our solo people. Bob has brought up that we need a way to bring track events or time trials on the weekends so that we can use them as a resource for volunteers. Don said he had heard a rumor that CFR has formed a company that is going to be employing all of their CFR volunteers at their races. He asked if Larry had heard of it. Larry said the workers are not happy with it. Nothing has been settled yet but that's where they are going. Don said they'd keep working on it.

Track Re-Paving status—Jack said that we have to wait until 6 months out from projected start date to get updated pricing. We will revisit in December.

SEDiv SCCA track paving loan—Don said that SEDiv has agreed to loan us \$100,000 over a 5-year period at 0% interest

Motion to adjourn given by Bob Horansky and seconded by Chris Ronson.

Meeting adjourned at 8:54 pm